

Amendments to the specification:

The following paragraphs will replace prior versions for this application.

Amended paragraphs:

[0004] The inventors have solved the above problems by providing a fuel system comprising an integrated fuel tank which includes a fuel tank and a filler tube in a single piece, and a counterweight having a ~~complimentary~~complementary portion that surrounds and protects the filler tube on assembly of the fuel system. This fuel system affords a convenient and secure location for the entire integrated fuel tank, eliminates all connections between the filler tube and the fuel tank and, serendipitously, provides additional counterweight leverage for the work vehicle.

[0005] Embodiments of the invention will be described in detail, with references to the following figures, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a view of a work vehicle in which the invention may be used;

Fig. 2 is a view of a frame for a rear portion of the work vehicle of Fig. 1 to which the invention may be attached;

Fig. 3 is a view of the frame of Fig. 2 with an exemplary embodiment of the cradle attached;

Fig. 4 is a view of an exemplary embodiment of the integrated fuel tank;

Fig. 5 is a view of the frame in Fig. 3 with the integrated fuel tank of Fig. 4 mounted to the cradle of Fig. 3;

Fig. 6 is a view of the cradle and integrated fuel tank of Fig. 5 with an exemplary embodiment of a counterweight having a ~~complimentary~~complementary portion that allows the passage of a filler tube;

Fig. 7 is a view of the counterweight of Fig. 6 a hinged door in addition to the ~~complimentary~~complementary portion allowing passage of the filler tube;

Fig. 8 is a view of an exemplary embodiment of the plate and hinged door illustrated in Fig. 7;

Fig. 9 is a view of the frame of Fig. 2 with a completely assembled fuel system; and

Fig. 10 is a view of a conventional, or prior art, fuel tank and filler tube.

[0009] Fig. 6 illustrates an integrated fuel tank 100 mounted to a cradle 50 with its filler tube 102 passing through a hole, i.e., an open area 212 of a ~~complimentary~~complementary counterweight 200. It depicts the counterweight 200 with a door removed for illustrative purposes.